



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND CABLE

D.T.C. 17-5

April 27, 2018

Petition of Charter Communications to establish and adjust the basic service tier programming, equipment, and installation rates for the communities in Massachusetts served by Charter Communications that are subject to rate regulation.

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND CABLE FIRST SET OF INFORMATION REQUESTS TO CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS

Pursuant to 207 C.M.R. § 1.06(6)(c), the Department of Telecommunications and Cable (“Department”) submits to Charter Communications (“Charter”) the following information requests:

Instructions

1. Each request should be answered in writing on a separate page with a recitation of the request, a reference to the request number, the docket number of the case, and the name of the person responsible for the answer.
2. These requests shall be deemed continuing so as to require further supplemental responses if Charter or its witness(es) receives or generates additional information within the scope of these requests between the time of the original response and the close of the record in this proceeding.
3. The term “provide complete and detailed documentation” means:

Provide all data, assumptions, and calculations relied upon. Provide the source of and basis for all data and assumptions employed. Include all studies, reports, and planning documents from which data, estimates, or assumptions were drawn and support for how the data or assumptions were used in developing the projections or estimates. Provide and explain all supporting work-papers, including any live Excel, or similar, spreadsheets.
4. The term “document” is used in its broadest sense and includes, without limitation, writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, phono-records, microfilm, microfiche, computer printouts, correspondence, press releases, handwritten and/or typed notes, records, reports, bills, checks, articles from journals and/or other sources, e-mails, SMS text messages, blog postings, RSS feeds, web pages, social media postings such as Facebook and Twitter, and/or other data compilations from which information can be obtained and all copies of such documents that bear notations or other markings that differentiate such copies from the original.

5. If any one of these requests is deemed ambiguous, notify the Department immediately so that the request may be clarified prior to the preparation of a written response.
6. File the responses with the Secretary of the Department, no later than 5:00 P.M. on **May 10, 2018**.

Information Requests

- D.T.C. 1-1 With respect to Charter's Gross Book Values of its capital assets (Form 1205, Schedules A and C):
- a) Please explain the increases in the Gross Book Values of Charter's capital assets from last year's Form 1205 to this year's Form 1205.
 - b) Please identify with specificity the level (i.e., regional, national, etc.) at which Charter identified its capital assets in last year's Form 1205 and this year's Form 1205.
- D.T.C. 1-2 With respect to Charter's Grossed-Up Rate of Return (Form 1205, Schedule A, Line H):
- a) Please explain the increase in Total Net Assets (Form 1205, Schedule A, Line G4b) from last year's Form 1205 to this year's Form 1205, in light of the proportionate increases in other listed capital assets (Form 1205, Schedule A, Line B) over the same period.
 - b) Please explain the increase in Charter's Effective Tax Rate (Form 1205, Schedule A, Line G5) from last year's Form 1205 to this year's Form 1205.
- D.T.C. 1-3 Please explain why Charter's Total Maintenance/Service Hours (Form 1205, Schedule C, Line B) for CableCARDS decreased to zero in this year's Form 1205, while Charter's Total # of Units in Service (Form 1205, Schedule C, Line C) for CableCARDS increased from last year's Form 1205 to this year's Form 1205.
- D.T.C. 1-4 Please explain the decrease in Charter's Total Maintenance/Service Hours (Form 1205, Schedule C, Line B) for Converter 2 from last year's Form 1205 to this year's Form 1205, in light of the proportionate decrease in Charter's Total # of Units in Service (Form 1205, Schedule C, Line C) for Converter 2 over the same period.
- D.T.C. 1-5 Please summarize the factors that contributed to the increase in Charter's Hourly Service Charge (Form 1205, Worksheet for Calculating Permitted Equipment and Installation Charges, Step A, Line 7) from last year's Form 1205 to this year's Form 1205.

- D.T.C. 1-6 Please describe the effect that Charter's encryption of its service has had on equipment and installation rates in its Form 1205 (e.g., as a result of reduced truck rolls).
- D.T.C. 1-7 Please confirm Charter's converter box installation charge in Massachusetts rate-regulated communities for subscribers who, at the time Charter chose to encrypt its service, (1) subscribed to the basic service tier and did not have a set-top box or CableCARD, and (2) subscribed to a level of service other than the basic service tier but used a digital television to receive only the basic service tier without use of a set-top box or CableCARD.
- D.T.C. 1-8 Please identify each channel for which Charter pays retransmission consent fees, and provide the corresponding monthly retransmission consent fees for each such channel for both the True-Up and Projected Periods.
- D.T.C. 1-9 Please provide Charter's basic service tier channel line-ups as of February 1, 2018, for each Massachusetts rate-regulated community.
- D.T.C. 1-10 Please explain Charter's removal and subsequent reinstatement of four basic service tier channels in its Legacy Charter communities (Forms 1240, Line 302).
- D.T.C. 1-11 For each of its Forms 1240, please confirm Charter's Monthly, Per-Subscriber External Costs (Forms 1240, Line 710) for the Projected Period. If these numbers are accurate, please explain how Charter derived the numbers from its Total External Costs (Forms 1240, Line 709).
- D.T.C. 1-12 In light of the Department's October 31, 2017, Rate Order in Docket D.T.C. 16-4, please state whether any changes in Charter's subscriber counts from 2016 to 2017 were significant enough to necessitate an adjustment to any of Charter's maximum permitted rates for franchise-related costs.
- D.T.C. 1-13 Please confirm the accuracy of Charter's entries in Lines 1 and 2 of page 1 of the Forms 1240 for Charter's Legacy Time Warner Cable communities. If the entries are inaccurate, please provide replacement pages.